

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (currently amended) A connector ~~(1)~~ comprising a housing ~~(10)~~ accommodating electric wires ~~(12)~~ extended from a rear end of the housing ~~(10)~~; and a cover ~~(20)~~ mounted on the rear end of said housing ~~(10)~~ to surround said electric wires ~~(12)~~,

said cover ~~(20)~~ having two halves ~~(21A, 21B)~~ that are connected to each other by butting an edge ~~(29)~~ of one butting wall ~~(28)~~ on one said half ~~(21A, 21B)~~ against an edge ~~(29)~~ of a butting wall ~~(28)~~ formed on said other half ~~(21A, 21B)~~,

at least one engaging projection ~~(27)~~ on each said butting wall ~~(28)~~ in each of said halves ~~(21A, 21B)~~, and at least one locking piece ~~(26)~~ on each butting wall ~~(28)~~ in each of said halves ~~(21A, 21B)~~ at positions corresponding to positions of said engaging projections ~~(27)~~ of the opposed half ~~(21A, 21B)~~, said locking pieces ~~(26)~~ being configured to ride across and lock to said corresponding engaging projection ~~(27)~~ for preventing said halves ~~(21A, 21B)~~ from separating;

each of said engaging projections ~~(27)~~ being formed on said butting wall ~~(28)~~ at a position spaced inwardly from said edge ~~(29)~~ of said butting wall ~~(28)~~ in a direction in which said both halves ~~(21A, 21B)~~ are connected, whereby a portion of an outer surface of said butting wall ~~(28)~~ between said edge ~~(29)~~ of said butting wall ~~(28)~~ and said engaging projection ~~(27)~~ ~~defines a~~ defining an outwardly open temporary holding surface ~~(32)~~ that supports said locking piece ~~(26)~~ before said locking piece ~~(26)~~ reaches said engaging projection ~~(27)~~ in connecting said halves ~~(21A, 21B)~~ to each other, thereby holding a connected posture of each of said halves ~~(21A, 21B)~~ in a normal posture, said outwardly open temporary holding surface permitting outward

deflection of said locking piece so that said locking piece can ride across and lock to said corresponding engaging projection.

2. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1, further comprising at least one guide (31) formed on said butting wall (28) for guiding said locking piece (26) in said direction in which said halves (21A, 21B) are connected together.

3. (currently amended) The connector of claim 2, further comprising an accommodation concavity (30) formed concavely on an outer surface of said butting wall (28) and open at a side of said edge (29) of said butting wall (28), said accommodation concavity (30) partly surrounding said locking projection (27); and

said locking piece (26) being disposed and configured to slide on an inner surface of said accommodation concavity (30) in connecting said halves together and fitting in said accommodation concavity (30) after said halves (21A, 21B) are connected.

4. (currently amended) The connector of claim 2, wherein said guide (31) is formed integrally with said accommodation concavity (30).

5. (currently amended) A cover (51) for protecting wires (W) extending from a housing (11a) of a connector to a corrugate tube (40), the corrugate tube having an outer surface with a plurality of annular concave portions, the corrugate tube further having an inner surface with a plurality of annular convex portions defining inner diameters, said cover (51) comprising:

a lock (57a, 57b) formed on an inner surface of an end of said cover (51) remote from said housing (11a) and dimensioned for and engaging a one of said annular concave portions on the outer periphery of said corrugate tube (40) so that said corrugate tube (40) is mounted unremovably on said cover (51); and

an electric wire guide ~~(59)~~ substantially adjacent said lock ~~(57a, 57b)~~ and dimensioned to define a diameter ~~(D2)~~ of a path ~~(58)~~ for said electric wires ~~(W)~~ extended from said corrugate tube ~~(40)~~ that is smaller than ~~an~~ the inner diameter ~~(D1)~~ of an edge defined by the annular convex portions defined on the inner periphery of said corrugate tube (40).

6. (currently amended) The cover ~~(51)~~ of claim 5, wherein said cover ~~(51)~~ comprises a pair of half covers ~~(51a, 51b)~~ connected to each other; a locking mechanism ~~(55, 56)~~ for holding said half covers ~~(51a, 51b)~~ closed around said wires ~~(W)~~ and secured to said housing ~~(11a)~~ and said corrugate tube ~~(40)~~; and said electric wire guide ~~(59)~~ comprises half annular projections ~~(59a, 59b)~~ formed on inner peripheral surfaces of said half covers ~~(51a, 51b)~~.

7. (currently amended) The cover ~~(51)~~ of claim 5, wherein said electric wire guide ~~(59)~~ includes a rounded surface for contacting said electric wires ~~(W)~~.

8. (new) The cover of claim 5, wherein the electric wire guide is disposed between the lock and the housing.